

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CAB-02

COME-00 DOTE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 /076 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TIFCPVHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4602

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09114

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US-BERLIN SERVICES VIA LONDON

1. UKDEL (I.E., DEPT OF TRADE) HAS TAKEN FOLLOWING POSITION IN NEGOTIATIONS OF A NEW US-UK AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT: "FOR SO LONG AS BERLIN CONTINUES TO BE ADMINISTERED BY A FOUR POWER ADMINISTRATION WHICH INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, A DESIGNATED US AIRLINE MAY OPERATE SCHEDULED SERVICES BETWEEN BERLIN AND LONDON AT A FREQUENCY OF NOT MORE THAN 7 SERVICES PER WEEK IN EACH DIRECTION WITH AIRCRAFT OF NOT MORE THAN 150 SEATS." AMONG OTHER THINGS, FOREGOING FORMULATION WOULD PREVENT PANAM FROM CONTINUING OFFER A SINGLE FLIGHT NUMBER SERVICE FROM US VIA LONDON AND AND HAMBURG TO BERLIN, ALTHOUGH IT COULD OFFER A CONNECTION BETWEEN US-LONDON AND LONDON-BERLIN FLIGHTS UNDER BRITISH PROPOSAL.

2. IN RESPONSE, USDEL MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "WITH REGARD TO BERLIN, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD REQUIRE FOR POLITICAL REASONS THAT PAN AMERICAN'S SERVICE BE A CONFIDENTIAL

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THROUGH SERVICE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BERLIN, WITH AN INTERMEDIATE STOP AT LONDON IF DESIRED BY THE AIRLINE. IT WOULD, THEREFORE BE NECESSARY TO SHOW BERLIN AS A BEYOND IN THE ROUTE SCHEDULE. ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREQUENCY AND CAPACITY LIMITATION PROPOSED BY THE U.K. RAISES POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES; WE TRUST THE UK WILL AGREE TO DELETE SUCH A LIMITATION, EVEN THOUGH

IT IS NOT FORESEEN THAT SERVICE ABOVE THE LIMITATION IS
LIKELY."

3. UKDEL HAS SO FAR REFUSED ACCEPT US POSITION THAT
BERLIN (AS WELL AS ALL POINTS IN FRG) APPEAR IN US
ROUTE DESCRIPTION AS A POINT BEYOND LONDON WITHOUT
FREQUENCY OR ANY OTHER RESTRICTION AND WITHOUT ITS
BEING CONTINGENT ON BERLIN'S STATUS. WE EXPECT UK
POSITION MAY DERIVE FROM RESISTENCE OF DOT IN ACCEPTING
THAT ISSUE IS BASICALLY POLITICAL, I.E., IN PROVINCE OF
FCO. IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE ARGUE THAT ISSUE IS BASICALLY
POLITICAL, WE MAY BE FORCED TO ACCEPT THAT OUR RIGHTS TO
OPERATE BEYOND LONDON TO BERLIN ARE TIED TO USG PRESENCE
IN BERLIN, I.E., RIGHTS TERMINATE IF BERLIN'S STATUS
CHANGES. PANAM REP IN LONDON FOR NEGOTIATIONS (HENRY
HILL) DOUBTS LONDON-BERLIN FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS WOULD BE
OF MUCH USE IF USG NO LONGER HAD A ROLE IN BERLIN; HENCE
HE NOT DISTURBED BY LOSING THESE RIGHTS IF STATUS BERLIN
CHANGES.

4. WHILE WE WOULD BE BETTER OFF TO HOLD TO CURRENT US
POSITION, USDEL NEEDS URGENT GUIDANCE ON HOW FAR IT
CAN GO ON BERLIN QUESTION. SPECIFICALLY, CAN WE
POLITICALLY ACCEPT A FORMULATION THAT, SHOULD BERLIN'S
STATUS CHANGE, OUR RIGHTS BEYOND LONDON TO BERLIN
WOULD TERMINATE? IF SO, REQUEST APPROPRIATE TEXT BE
PROVIDED.

5. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
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BREWSTER

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